

# **FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** December 11, 2014

**Agenda Item:** 2015 Deer Hunting Seasons, Quota Ranges, and HD Boundaries

**Division:** Wildlife

**Action Needed:** Proposed

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 30 minutes

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## **Background**

Season structures and hunting district boundaries for deer are adopted biennially in an odd-numbered-year framework between December and final adoptions in February. However, the Commission has agreed to entertain some proposals outside of the regular cycle to address specific issues. FWP is proposing the following changes in the opportunity to harvest antlerless mule deer during the 2015 season.

## **Region 3**

- HD 300 - propose issuing 75 mule deer b-licenses to address some over-browsing and to follow AHM
- HD 331 - propose issuing 200 mule deer b-licenses to address some over-browsing and to follow AHM

## **Regions 6**

- All Region 6 HDs except HD 652 - propose allowing either-sex mule deer on the A license to follow AHM and address sportsmen's concerns about overharvesting bucks with the current buck-only season

## **Region 7**

- All Region 7 HDs - propose issuing some mule deer b-licenses to follow AHM and provide the tools to address game damage. The number of b-licenses issued in each HD would vary and depend on the spring 2015 deer surveys. **If the spring 2015 surveys show deer numbers below long-term average in a hunting district then no b-licenses would be issued for that district.** If the population is at or above long-term average then the number of b-licenses issued would be on a sliding scale and depend upon how much above long-term average the population is.

## **Public Involvement Process & Results**

In addition to public comment at the Dec. 11 Commission meeting, public comment will run through 5 p.m., Jan. 23, 2015. Comments and a comment summary were forwarded to the Commission.

## **Alternatives and Analysis**

Proposals may be adopted as proposed, with adjustment, with additions, with deletions or no change from 2014 (status quo). No change would challenge the supporting justifications behind proposals.

## **Agency Recommendation & Rationale**

Rationales for individual proposals are included in Commission information packets and may be further articulated at the Feb.12 Commission meeting.

## **Proposed Motion**

I move the Commission adopt the final 2015 Deer Hunting Seasons and Hunting Districts as presented by FWP. I also move to adopt all other portions of the previous 2014-2015 deer season regulations not affected by the Commission's actions today.